

2022 Summer Camp COVID-19 Protocols

Updated 4/22/2022

Camp Daggett will be operating its summer camp program for a second season during the COVID-19 Pandemic. We will continue to utilize layered NPIs (non-pharmaceutical interventions) to mitigate the risk of an outbreak of COVID-19 during our summer sessions. However, it is important to note that there is no way to fully eliminate the risk of individual cases or spread of the virus.

We have reviewed recommendations from a variety of licensing and regulatory agencies. Agencies are moving away from detailed, camp-specific guidance. With that in mind, we have reviewed practices with other camps and reflected on our approach last summer. Given the context of overnight camping and our specific programming, some distinctions should be noted:

- **Current Agency Recommendations** reflect a shift from preventing the spread of the virus to preventing severe illness and overwhelming hospital systems. Some of our protocols may go beyond what is recommended in other settings because of lower levels of vaccination in youth populations and higher likelihood of spread in communal living in the overnight camp setting.
- **COVID-19 Community Levels** tie protocols to current levels of COVID-19 in the local community. Camp Daggett has campers attend from outside the area so local community levels will not be used for day-to-day protocols.
- **Program Format:** last year's approach utilized a strict cohort approach. With the addition of arrival testing, we are planning to bring back full camp meals and full-camp outdoor activities.

As we have learned over the last 2 years, these plans may change as the current state of the pandemic changes. We will work to keep families updated ahead of the summer and their specific sessions.

COVID-19 Vaccination

We strongly encourage our camp community to be vaccinated against COVID-19. High levels of community vaccination bring us closer to herd immunity and a shift from a pandemic to an endemic. COVID-19 vaccinations are getting full FDA approval and there are numerous resources available that outline the benefits for getting vaccinated. Learn more at [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov)

At this time, Camp Daggett **encourages but does not require campers to be vaccinated**. Our Summer 2022 protocols, in general, will not change based on your camper's vaccination status. However, we do require vaccination status on file in case we have confirmed cases of COVID-19. CDC recommendations for isolation and quarantine are different for vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals.

Before Arriving to Camp

You can support a healthy week at Camp before you arrive. Please follow these steps to help us start each week of camp off well and “put the other fellow first.”

- **Get Vaccinated:** if you are able, consider [being fully vaccinated and up-to-date](#) with any available boosters. If your camper is not yet vaccinated and you would like to do so before summer, plan ahead and get an appointment on your calendar for this May.
- **Avoid “moderate to high risk” activities 7 days before your session:** this includes international travel, large indoor gatherings, and being in contact with someone suspected of having COVID-19. A more detailed list is provided [here](#).
- **Track Symptoms 7 days before your session:** complete the tracking form, which will be provided, for 7 days before you arrive. This helps us watch for signs of COVID-19 and other illnesses. A completed tracker is required at check-in.
- **Pack Masks** for the entire week of camp (7 days). We will still have some times during the camp day when masks will be needed. [Review this infographic](#) for selecting masks.
- **Travel to Camp:** utilize personal vehicles whenever possible. If public transit is necessary (planes, trains, buses), please wear a mask for the entirety of your trip including at airports, train or bus stations.
- **Get tested for COVID-19** within 48 hours of your arrival at Camp Daggett (no earlier than the Friday afternoon before your check-in day) **-OR- pay to test upon arrival.**
**Note, home administered test results will not be accepted. Your testing location must be able to provide you with proof of a negative test. Find a testing site [HERE](#).*
- **Don't come to camp if you are sick or exposed to COVID-19:** please notify us as soon as possible if your camper has a suspected/confirmed case of COVID-19 or does not feel well before their week of camp. This includes:
 - A Temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher
 - Sore Throat, Cough, OR Difficulty Breathing
 - Diarrhea, Vomiting, or Severe Headaches
 - Any other signs of illness

Unvaccinated campers are considered exposed to COVID-19 if they have been in close personal contact with someone with COVID-19. If your camper is not vaccinated or not up-to-date with available boosters and exposed, they should not attend their camp session.

If sick or exposed, we will work with you to transfer your payment to next summer or provide a refund when possible.

Camper Arrival and Check-In

Checking-in day is an exciting time. We want to ensure the process goes smoothly and incorporates additional screening steps for COVID-19. Help us make this a smooth, enjoyable process.

- **Arrival Times:** will be scheduled and assigned alphabetically. These will be shared with you before your camp session. If you need to arrive at a different time, changes can be arranged ahead of time with our staff.
- **1 Adult per camper:** we ask that 1 parent or caregiver per camper come to Camp for drop-off. With additional steps this year, this lowers the number of people going through the check-in process.
- **Expediated Check-In:** will be available to those who received a COVID-19 test within 48 hours of arrival to camp. Proof of the negative test must be shown to bypass the on-site testing station. Results from at-home tests will not be accepted
- **COVID-19 Testing on-site:** is available for those who do not test ahead of arrival. At this time, each check-in test will cost \$15 per camper. If this cost is prohibitive for your family, let us know at check-in and we will waive the fee. It is important to note that testing on site adds 20-30 mins to your check-in process.
- **Symptom Tracker and Temperatures** will be collected upon arrival. Be sure you have completed the tracker 7 days prior to the start of your camper's session.
- **Masking during other steps of the process:** families should plan to wear masks for other parts of the check-in process, including dropping your camper off at their cabin.
- **Positive COVID-19 Tests or High Temperatures** will result in your camper and any campers in your vehicle not checking in that day. Families can choose to get a PCR test from a medical provider and provide proof of a negative result for their camper to attend. In the case of a fever but a negative test, campers would need to be fever free for 24 hours without the assistance of medication and take a second rapid test to join their cabin.

During Summer Camp

With the addition of on-site rapid testing and other continued mitigation strategies we plan to see the return of missed activities like free water, free land, and full camp meals.

- **Masks** will be worn by all campers and unvaccinated volunteers when indoors and not solely with their cabin group. This will include: bathrooms (when not bathing), dining hall (when not seated), limited indoor activities and indoor rainy-day activities.
- **Cohorts** will continue as cabin groups for most of the camp day. When outdoors, campers may interact with others outside of their cabin group. Indoor, large group time will be limited and require masks, except when eating.
- **Daily Screening:** will include temperature/symptom checks. The health officer will be informed of any elevated temperatures or concerns.
- **General Activities:** brother and sister cabins will participate together in their typical morning and afternoon activity rotations. Area Directors will plan for activities to be outdoors whenever possible. Any indoor activities will require campers to wear masks.
- **Meals:** will take place with all campers, staff, and volunteers at one time. Campers will wear masks when not seated at their tables. Dining tables will be spaced apart as much as our facility allows. Windows will be open to increase ventilation as weather allows.
- **Bathrooms** will be used by individual cabin groups as much as possible. If more than one cabin group is in the bathroom at once, masks will be worn except for when showering. Brushing teeth at a bank of sinks will be one cabin at a time.
- **Cleaning** we have learned that surface transmission of COVID-19 is much lower than first thought at the beginning of the pandemic. Still, our maintenance team will follow a robust cleaning schedule to maintain a clean camp environment.
- **Free Water, Free Land, and Night Activities:** with the addition of check-in testing, outdoor full-camp activities will take place this summer. If these activities have to take place indoors, masks will be worn.

During Wilderness Trips

Trip Campers follow the pre-arrival and check-in procedures above, including a designated time for checking in. When at Camp Daggett, they will follow the protocols listed above. For trips:

- **Masking** during trips will be limited. Trip Campers should still bring masks in case they interact with the public at rest stops or encounter other groups during their travels.
- **Cohorts** the trip crew of 10-12 campers and trip leads will be considered a cohort.
- **Daily Screening** will include temperature/symptom checks. Any concerns will be communicated with main camps and COVID-19 tests will be taken with the group.
- **Interaction with others.** Trip participants should have minimal to no interaction with the public while on their trip. If there is interaction with others, masks should be worn.

Responding to Confirmed Cases

Fully preventing the transmission COVID-19 is not possible. How we respond to a confirmed case will consider the unique aspects of a summer camp setting, the 1-week duration of our seasons, and current CDC isolation and quarantine recommendations.

- **Symptomatic Campers** will take a rapid test and rest in the Nurse's Cabin if negative. If symptoms subside, a second rapid test will be conducted before rejoining their group. If symptoms last for more than 24 hours, the camper will be sent home.
- **Confirmed Cases** as determined by a positive COVID-19 test. If camper receives a positive test, they will be isolated with supervision and will need to be picked up from camp as soon as possible.
- **Returning to Camp:** due to the duration of our sessions, campers sent home because of illness or a positive COVID-19 test will not be able to return to camp.
- **Parent Notification:** parents will be notified if their camper stays overnight in the Nurse's Cabin, has symptoms of illness that last more than 24hrs, or has a positive case of COVID-19. Parents will also be notified if multiple confirmed cases significantly alter the operations of camp. Parents **will not** be notified if there is a COVID-19 case at Camp Daggett unless it is within their camper's assigned cabin during their assigned session.
- **Cabins with a confirmed case:** will have all campers take a COVID-19 rapid test. If negative, campers will continue to participate at camp. For the remainder of the week, full camp activities will be modified to return to stricter cabin cohorts.
- **Multiple confirmed cases:** if multiple cases of COVID-19 are confirmed, as determined by the Camp Director in consultation with the local health department, Camp Daggett will notify current session families. At that point, administrative staff and the local health department will work together on a plan that may include further cohorted camper activities or camper pick-up.
- **Transitioning to a new session:** if there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 during a session, all staff and volunteers will test before the next session. If there are multiple cases that significantly alter the operations of a session, staff and volunteers will test multiple times, incoming families will be notified, and the start date of the next session may be shifted.
- **Wilderness Trip Considerations:** Trips will follow these guidelines with consideration of their unique setting. Trip leaders will be in contact with camp whenever there is suspected illness on the trail. Responses and actions may change based on the setting of the trip and the discretion of the trip leads and Camp Director. Because of the isolated nature of a group on a trip, parents of cabin campers will not necessarily be informed if illness impacts a trip.

Staff and Volunteer Expectations

Staff and volunteers at Camp Daggett interact with each other and with all cabin groups. Because of this, our paid staff (counselors, area directors, administrative and year-round staff) are required to be vaccinated for COVID-19. Our volunteer staff (Camp Aides and Counselors-in-Training) are strongly encouraged to be vaccinated.

- **Before Camp and Arrival:** staff and volunteers will be expected to follow these same protocols before their first day arriving at camp. Day volunteers and year-round staff not living at camp cannot follow these protocols daily but will have limited indoor interaction with campers.
- **During Camp:** staff and volunteers will follow similar protocols as campers. However, they may have more cross-cohort interaction. Unvaccinated staff and volunteers will mask when in indoor, mixed group settings including during time off. Volunteers and staff not living-on-site will also mask when in indoor settings with campers.
- **Time Off away from Camp:** paid staff and volunteer Counselors-in-Training are able to have time off away from Camp Daggett. When local community levels are low, staff and CITs are asked to wear masks in indoor public spaces. If community levels are elevated or high, staff and CITs may be asked to further modify their behavior and public interaction.
- **Symptomatic Staff/Volunteers:** will take a rapid test and rest in the Nurse's Cabin if negative. If symptoms subside, a second rapid test will be conducted before rejoining their camp. If symptoms last for more than 24 hours, the camper will be sent home.
- **Confirmed Cases for Volunteer and Minor Staff:** will be determined by a positive COVID-19 test. If a volunteer or paid minor staff receives a positive test, they will be isolated with supervision and will need to be picked up from camp as soon as possible. Volunteers and minor staff may return if they are outside of quarantine/isolation timelines as defined by the CDC and there is enough time left in their session as determined by the director.
- **Confirmed Cases for Adult Staff:** will be determined by a positive COVID-19 test. The staff member will isolate and recover in the dormitories at Camp Daggett or return home if preferred. Their responsibilities will be covered by other staff members and, if a cabin counselor, the cabin will follow procedures for a confirmed case. Staff will return to their responsibilities once deemed appropriate by current CDC quarantine/isolation timelines.

These protocols can be updated or altered at any time based on the discretion of Camp Daggett and current public health recommendations. Notifications of protocol changes will be made whenever possible but not in every instance of a change being made. Summer 2022 participants may contact Camp Daggett with any questions or for clarification.